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Justice

International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union  
(ILGWU)

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2-15-1950

## Justice (Vol. 32, Iss. 4)

International Ladies Garment Workers Union (ILGWU)

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## Justice (Vol. 32, Iss. 4)

### Keywords

International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, ILGWU, labor unions, clothing workers, textile workers, garment workers, garment industry, New York, United States

### Comments

*Justice* was the official publication of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union ILGWU from 1919 to 1995. Editions of *Justice* were published in English, Italian, Spanish, and Yiddish. When compared side by side, the content of some of these different editions of *Justice* shows significant differences. This is the English-language edition of *Justice*.

# JUSTICE

INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS

Vol. XXXII, No. 4

Jersey City, N. J., February 15, 1950

Price 10 Cents

## San Antonio Garment Queen



Mayor Jack White passes the scepter to Queen Ruth Flora, "crowned" at gala ILGWU ball in City Auditorium. Five thousand garment workers and friends enjoyed the ceremonies and dancing which followed. [See story, Page 8.]

## 3 ILGWU SPOKESMEN TESTIFY FOR 65-CENT LEARNER'S MINIMUM

A 65-cent minimum wage for learners for a period not exceeding eight weeks was urged last week by representatives of the ILGWU at a hearing conducted in Washington by the U. S. Wage and Hour Division.

Spokesmen for the garment union were Dr. Lazear Teper, the union's research director; Dr. William Chambers, director of the union's Management-Engineering Department; and Joseph Tuvim, manager of Local 14.

Dr. Teper testified that longer apprenticeship periods would be unjustified inasmuch as an eight-week period is sufficient time to bring inexperienced workers to the level of efficiency expected of the lowest experienced workers.

He also told of the need for minimums above the 65-cent level in such branches as neckwear, scarves and shoulder pad manufacture and at least 75 cents in the production of coats, suits, skirts, better dresses, etc.

Dr. Chambers described the length of learning periods in the different occupations of the "fashion" garment industry as determined by studies made by the Management-Engineering Department.

Manager Tuvim presented detailed evidence on learning experience in the various industries over which Local 14 has jurisdiction.

During the three days of the hearings, industry spokesmen also presented their views. Some employer representatives opposed a learner minimum of less than 75 cents.

Isabel Ferguson presided at the hearings in behalf of the Wage and Hour Administration.

## ILG Demands AFL Annul Tuvim Ban By N. Y. City Body

Has a city central body of the AFL a right to oust an officer or a delegate for political non-conformity or for supporting a political candidate which that central body refuses to support? In other words, is freedom of political thought and action, since its foundation a guiding principle in the American Federation of Labor, still a rule that must not be breached?

This question came up sharply before the AFL's Executive Council on Feb. 8 at its mid-winter meeting in Miami Beach, Fla., as Pres. David Dubinsky of the ILGWU filed a memorandum protesting the action of the New York Central Trades and Labor Council on Dec. 15, 1949, in ousting Joseph Tuvim from its executive board, and demanding its reversal.

Joseph Tuvim, manager of ILGWU Local 140, the Ladies' Neckwear Makers, had served on the executive board of the Central Trades for three years, and had been re-elected to that post on Nov. 2, 1949, for a one-year term. He was both nominated and elected to that post without opposition. Nevertheless, on Nov. 28 he was forced to tender his resignation from the position, and his resignation was accepted.

(Continued on Page 3)

## Dilworth Lauds ILG For Philly Triumph

The Philadelphia Dress Joint Board paid tribute to its hundreds of shop chairmen and committee members with a testimonial dinner at the Broadwood Hotel on Jan. 31. International officers and community leaders were among those who joined in saluting the "roll-line" soldiers of the union.

Acting as hostmaster, Manager Samuel Otto led an ovation for the union's guide of honor as he declared:

"For their zeal, their tireless labor, their endless devotion and boundless loyalty, the union and their fellow workers are continually grateful. This dinner is evidence of the affection and esteem we bear for our shop chairmen and committee members."

Richardson Dilworth, City Treasurer, gave the ILGWU major credit for the victory of liberal forces last November in the municipal elections. Commenting on the union's pioneering effort in the field of labor political action, he said:

(Continued on Page 3)

## Training Institute Ready to Interview Student Applicants

With less than two weeks remaining to the applications for enrollment in the ILGWU Training Institute, final preparations have been made to begin the interviews by which the student body is to be selected. It is announced by Arthur Elzer, institute director. Several hundred applications have been received at the institute's office, 1710 Broadway. The deadline for filing applications remains Mar. 1. Places may be obtained in person or by mail at the institute's office.

## Handmacher Pact for Ky. Shops Wins Higher Rates

A joint agreement covering the two Handmacher-Vogel women's suit plants in Glasgow and Lebanon, Ky., was recently signed after protracted negotiations were twice broken off. It was announced by H. D. Langer, Ohio Valley ILGWU director.

Handmacher-Vogel is a well-known Philadelphia suit manufacturing firm which has been expanding its production in the Middle West.

Included in the new contract are higher minimum rates and guaranteed averages. Costumers receive an increase of \$2.50 and floor workers gain an increase of 5 cents an hour and an additional 5 cents after Jan. 1, 1951.

Piece rates are set so that at least two-thirds of the workers will get not less than 90 cents an hour plus 1% per cent, according to categories. To see that this provision is enforced, the company is required to furnish the union copies of its monthly payroll. The union also has a right to request any other data needed to check on the enforcement of rates and wages.

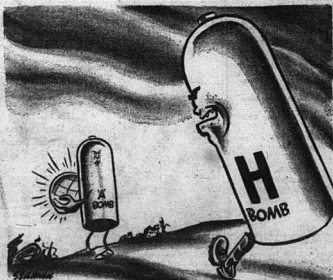
Among the additional improvements included in the new contract are provisions for call-in pay and a modification of the terms of vacation benefits.

A special meeting of the Lebanon local heard District Manager David Solomon and Regional Director Langer explain the new provisions, which were approved enthusiastically.

## UNITY HOUSE STARTS REGISTRATION MAR. 1

Registration for the 1950 Unity House season will start at the resort's New York office, 1710 Broadway, on Mar. 1, 1950. It is announced by A. A. Tadin, manager of the ILGWU vacation place.

"O.K., Bub — Let's Have It!"



STACK 3

## L. A. Sports Contractors Dissolve Assn.; Union Holds Firms in Line

Though the West Coast Garment Manufacturers' Assn., composed of Los Angeles sportswear contractors, recently dissolved, swift action by the Los Angeles Joint Council has made every firm formerly a member of the defunct organization fully aware that it must continue to live up to the union agreement in every respect. Vice Pres. Louis Levy, Pacific Coast director, reports.

The association was left in a weakened condition through the period when its former director, Murray Dimes, attempted to use it as a weapon against the union. After his removal from office, it lacked sufficient standing to recover. Inspired rumors had it that the end of the organization would nullify all agreements with the union. As soon as the association actually closed its doors, the union sent a stern warning to each of the former members that the contract would have to be adhered to fully. It was pointed out that the collective agreement provided that each member firm would continue to be bound by the contract regardless of any change of status in the organization. To additional, each contractor or had individually signed the contract, Levy's letter reminded.

At the same time, letters were sent to members of the manufacturers and jobbers associations, as well as independent firms, notifying them that in their dealings with contractors, they must adhere to all provisions in the agreement with respect to dealing with union contractors.

To prevent violations by any contractor who might have thought he was no longer party to the agreement, the Los Angeles Joint Council staff was quickly mobilized to visit every firm formerly in the association and investigate contract compliance. Supplementing these routine visits, teams of business agents are making surprise visits to the shops after hours and on Saturdays to check compliance on working hours.

## KAPLAN-ZUCKERMAN FORCES TRIUMPH IN LOCAL 117 BALLOTING

The administration of Manager Benjamin Kaplan and Chairman Rubin Zuckerman scored an overwhelming triumph in the Local 117 elections on Feb. 7.

Kaplan was handily by a 3 to 1 vote, garnering 8,886 to his opponent's 1,824 votes. Zuckerman's total was 4,886 compared to 1,862 for the losing candidate. The administration's nominees for business agent, members of the executive board and convention delegates were likewise elected.

The "rank and file" seemed to have unlimited funds at their disposal, for they deluged the garment center with thousands of leaflets, utilized radio broadcasts, and blaring forth phony charges against the leadership. The Communist newspapers skillfully echoed every bit of slander.

The members knew full well what the administration had accomplished, for in accordance with the traditions of Local 117 each had recently received a 60-page pamphlet detailing the general activities and finances of the union for the past three years. They were aware of the routine and functioning of the union. (Continued on Page 11)

## FIGHT POLIO! Join March of Dimes!

## TORONTO ILG AIDS KIN OF THOSE LOST IN GARMENT BLAZE

One of the greatest tragedies in the history of the Toronto garment industry occurred a few weeks ago when the Philip Garment Co., employing about 19 people, suddenly burst into flames. Nine workers died, Manager S. Kraiman reported.

It appears that the fire started somewhere along the cutting table and for some undisclosed reason it created a spontaneous explosion. Flames soon enveloped the factory and there was very little chance for anyone to escape, since the factory was located in a basement with iron bars outside the only window at the front of the factory. A partition in the rear divided the shop from another factory and there was only one exit from the passageway of the building into the Philip shop.

It didn't take very long for the fire to be brought under control in a short space of time several were dead and others died in the hospital. Of the 19 who were employed, one escaped. The unemployed and his son were also victims of the fire.

Now, of course, everyone is clamoring for an investigation into the cause of the fire and the reason why the factory was permitted to operate in the basement of a building with flimsy partitions all around and with iron bars on the outside of its only window, which made it virtually a fire trap.

Although the Philip Garment Co. was not a union shop, a few of the workers were union members and others were former IDU when the union had helped bring a few of the country. A large number of ILGWU members attended the funeral and extended their sympathy to the families of the victims. Upon the union's initiative a fund was started with the purpose of raising a large sum of money to help the families of those who lost their lives.

## Plotting New Philly Headquarters



Surveying plans for proposed \$400,000 structure to house Philadelphia ILGWU offices and the Union Health Center are (left to right) Pres. Dubinsky, Herbert Syme, attorney, Executive Secretary Umhey and Vice Pres. Samuel Cotto, manager of Philadelphia Joint Board.

## Philly MONTREAL

Eleven new shops have been organized in Montreal since the co-ordinated Organizational Department was set up an short time ago under the direction of St. Bremer.

Seven of these are cloak firms employing 150 workers. They are Laura Garment Co., I. Shulman, Mrs. Modest, Vernon of Canada, Sports Town, Hops Bros., and Rosette Garment Co. All the employers have joined the Manufacturers' Council, and will comply with all provisions of the union contract with that body.

Union agreements also have been reached with the following four dress shops: Lam Wolf, Marion J. Jones, V. L. Dress and Broomal Manufacturing.

## Jodoin Heads TLC

Claude Jodoin, manager of the Dressmakers' Union, was unanimously re-elected president of the Montreal Trades and Labor Council for a fourth term. Other ILGWU members elected to office in the council include C. Leblanc, as French recruiting secretary; Annette Langvin, secretary of the Labor Day Committee; and several members named to the council's executive board.

## '208' Officers Re-elected

At a nominating meeting of Local 208 held Jan. 26, Manager Maurice 208 and Chairman Frank Chack were re-elected for another term; they were unopposed. Elections for all other officers of the local and its Preserv' Branch will take place on Feb. 17. Ballotting in Local 208 has been set for Mar. 2.

## Embroidery Dues

The recently adopted automatic deduction system has been put into effect, and a number of duesmen's already have been received at the union office.

In delegates to the 1950 Convention: Jack Belgrade with 248 votes and Rose M. Corrine with 83 votes. There were 11 instantaneas.

Local 248 elected the following representatives: delegates: Louis Babin with 461 votes, Anthony Schiano with 213 votes and Josephine Lehou with 261 votes. Seven members were on the ballot.

## BRA LOCAL RETURNS SNYDER AS MANAGER

Alvah Snyder, manager of Local 22, Corvet and Brausers Workers, was enthusiastically returned to office by a vote of acclamation at a meeting on Feb. 1. The membership also re-elected Business Agent Morris Fishman.

At the same meeting nominations were made for other officers. An Elections and Objections Committee was chosen. The committee began examining candidates for office on Feb. 15.

Local 22 will hold its election at the Rand School on Feb. 14. The Elections and Objections Committee is authorized to declare a ballot election unnecessary if the number of candidates does not exceed the number of officers to be filled.

Snyder told the members that the joint opposition, which has been busy in recent weeks demonstrating its own ineffectiveness by its inability to provide a candidate for manager or to elect one of its followers to the Elections and Objections Committee.

## Bulkin Re-Elected Manager of Joint Council in Philly

Results of the election conducted by the Philadelphia Joint Council on Feb. 2 are reported as follows: by Manager Louis Bulkin. The joint council is comprised of Local 79, Ladies Tailors, and Local 264, Sportswear, Ski-Suits and Waterproof Garment Workers.

For the post of council manager Bulkin received 1,011 votes with nine opposed. For assistant manager of the council and secretary of the Health Fund, Ross Wilkins was elected with 1,069 votes for and 109 against.

Local 79 named the following as

## Rubberized Union Gains 700 Members In 6-Month Period

Local 98, Rubberized Novelty Workers, has been gaining membership at the rate of more than 100 members a month. It is reported by Manager Daniel Nisanovitz. In the last six months the local has gained 700 members for a total of 2,600.

The Local 98 manager also announces that the rubberized novelty workers will hold their nomination meeting in the Roosevelt Auditorium, 100 E. 17th St., on Mar. 1.

## Congratulations!



Mary Goff, veteran business agent for Local 62, Undergarment Workers, poses for a wedding picture following her marriage to Harry Schuster, former union officer.

WDR FM 104.3

## Special Features The British Elections

As part of its coverage of this important event in the democratic world, WDR will broadcast speeches by the three leading candidates. The important issues will be discussed by the spokesmen of the Liberal, Conservative and Labor parties.



On Thursday, Feb. 16—Clement Davies for the Liberal Party 10:00 - 10:20 P.M.

On Friday, Feb. 17—Winston Churchill for the Conservative 10:00 - 10:20 P.M. Party

On Saturday, Feb. 18—Clement Attlee for the Labor Party 10:00 - 10:20 P.M.

On Election Day—Thursday, Feb. 23—WDR will give up-to-the-minute reports on returns as they come through out the day from the BBC.

Listeners to Station KFMV in Los Angeles and WVUN in Chattanooga should consult their local newspapers for broadcast time of this program over these stations.

## More Power in Your Purse

On-the-spot visits every Wednesday at 9 P.M. to on-spot explaining how they work to balance your system of free enterprise. Presented by the Council for Cooperative Development.

# ILG Demands AFL Reverse Action of City Central Body

(Continued from Page 1)  
tion was "accepted" by the executive board on Dec. 12, and by the Central Trades on Dec. 13.

## Cite Lacey Boast

Turin's counter was admittedly based solely on the ground of political differences. Martin T. Lacey, president of the Central Trades, boasted of this in the explanation which he presented at the meeting of the Central Trades on Dec. 13. In addition, Lacey stressed the fact that the counter did not involve Turin as an individual but was equitably aimed at his international union, the ILGWU.

The controversy arose because the executive board of Central Trades had agreed to support Democratic Mayor William O'Dwyer and his city-wide running mate for re-election in the 1950 mayoral election in New York City. The Central Trades, therefore, formed a campaign committee to promote the O'Dwyer candidacy. The ILGWU, on the other hand, supported Newbold Morris, Mayor O'Dwyer's major rival.

In seeking a reversal of the New York Central Trades' action, the ILGWU memorandum charged that the Turin counter was obviously a flagrant attempt to compel uniformity of political opinion within the AFL. Furthermore, referred to Lacey's public statement to Turin as the "unfortunate victim of circumstances—circumstances which found him torn between his obligations as a trade unionist and a small group of men within his own organization, the ILGWU, who have ignored the basic principles and who prefer to play the game of power politics," represents an attack by a central labor body upon an international union of the AFL.

## No Basis in Constitution

The ILGWU petition avers that "there is not one word in the AFL Constitution which justifies or authorizes counter of a non-Communist for political differences, or which warrants any effort to compel uniformity of political thinking and action."

Finally, the petition points out that, had the Central Trades had such power of counter, it was not

exercised in conformity with the AFL Constitution, which requires written charges, and a conviction after a fair trial. None of these requirements were met in the Turin case.

After considering the ILGWU petition, the Executive Council named a committee composed of council members Matthew Wolf, George M. Hapton and Herman Winter to hold hearings and make a report and recommendations to the next meeting of the council.

## 12,000 CAST VOTES FOR STULBERG SLATE IN UNDERWEAR LOCAL

Members in the third largest local of the ILGWU returned to office by an overwhelming vote of the administration headed by Vice Pres. Louis Stulberg in elections that took place on Feb. 9. Manager Stulberg was unopposed as candidate for manager cast was 12,223 exceeding the total for 1947 by nearly 5,000. The highest vote received by any candidate opposing an administration candidate was 189.

Local 61 held its nomination meeting on Jan. 13. Manager Stulberg was nominated in the course of an enthusiastic demonstration of support for his policies.

An Elective and Objection Committee of 11 was chosen to try the members to supervise the elections and to examine candidates. The committee was composed of Frank Capuzza, Elsie Hollander, Marjorie Lechner, Sarah Zakar Levy, Mary McIntire, Celia Fredick, Emma Rosante, Betty Snyder (chairman), Mary Seftin, Bula Weinstaub and Albertina White.

## Costume Union to Make Nominations on March 8

Local 124, Theatrical Costume Workers, will hold its nomination meeting on Mar. 8. It is announced by Manager Luigi Quintiliani. The meeting will be held at the Hotel Diplomat.

## Labor and Politics

The following editorial comment on the ILGWU's appeal to the Executive Council of the AFL appeared in the New York "Times" on Feb. 10.

An interesting problem has been posed by David Dubinsky before the executive council of the American Federation of Labor. Mr. Dubinsky was one of the few important labor leaders in this city to support Newbold Morris for Mayor last fall in the face of combined AFL-CIO backing for Mr. O'Dwyer. Presumably as a result of the position taken by Mr. Dubinsky and his union, the ILGWU representative was asked to resign from New York City's central AFL group. It is acceptance of this resignation by the Central Trades and Labor Council of Greater New York that Mr. Dubinsky is now asking the AFL's highest executive body to reverse.

The problem raised by Mr. Dubinsky to the largest Federation level is this: Should a labor organization following one political line require its officials—or, for that matter, its members—in conformity to that line under pain of expulsion? This question becomes of increasing importance as labor unions as such become more and more in national politics. In the present case Mr. Dubinsky asks "whether a central labor union . . . is obliged to be so in the interest both of labor and of democracy not to disavow independence of thought and action before the law as well as within the ranks of labor. Obviously, any labor organization, from local to top executive board, may participate in political activity and wants to. But to enforce conformity under pain of expulsion (which is a very real threat) to those who refuse to be blanket the whole of union members. That is hardly a democratic procedure."

The CIO, to be sure, is now riding itself of Communist domination. But there is a very real situation for at least one of the great, between political dissent as expressed within the framework of the democratic system and the tactics of totalitarianism and discipline played by the Communists inside the labor movement to further their own ends. The Communist system is used primarily as weapons in an ideological battle. To root out Communist influence is one thing; it is quite another for a labor group, whether AFL, CIO or independent, to require that all its members subscribe to whatever political line it may be following at the moment.

## DUBINSKY PLEDGES TO AID LABOR BODY IN '50 HEART DRIVE

Fred David Dubinsky has accepted an invitation to serve as a member of the National Labor Committee for the 1950 Heart Drive. It was announced. The invitation was announced by Secretary of Labor Maurice J. Tobin, chairman of the labor committee for the drive.

The American Heart Association is seeking to raise \$5,000,000 during the month of February.

In his letter to Pres. Dubinsky the Secretary of Labor wrote: "Thousands of the heart and blood vessels are our nation's leading cause of death. They kill more than 60,000 Americans annually and are responsible for more deaths than the next five most important causes of death combined."

According to Secretary Tobin's invitation, Pres. Dubinsky stated: "The fight against heart disease, the most dreadful menace to the life and health of the American people, must be extended. This

## Airing Union Questions



Pres. Charles McGowan (left) of Boilermakers' Union discusses labor movement problems with Pres. David Dubinsky under sunny Florida skies before start of AFL Executive Council sessions in Miami Beach last week.

## Dilworth Extolls Philly ILGWU's Political Drive

(Continued from Page 1)  
"Philadelphia is deeply indebted to the men and women we honored tonight for sparking this successful political effort."

The greeting and congratulations of Pres. David Dubinsky were followed by First Vice Pres. Luigi Amintore, who declared that the entire ILGWU throughout the country was proud of the Philadelphia Drive Joint Board, its achievements and its high standing in the community.

Other notables who spoke included Dr. George W. Taylor, imperial chairman of the dress industry, and M. Herbert Byrne, leading labor attorney and general counsel for the joint board.

CIO's commemorating the occasion were presented to the guests. Entertainment during the evening included a show by top-notch theatrical and night club stars and a performance of the joint board chorus under the direction of Thelma Davis.

Manager Otto was honorary chairman of the banquet committee. Nathan Alexander was chairman. Abe Belsky, co-chairman and James Lurie, secretary.

## Conduct Elections

Locals comprising the Dress Joint Board are currently engaged in choosing their officers, business agents, executive board members and convention delegates.

In a message urging full participation in the elections, Manager Otto pointed out that in few places throughout the world can workers still exercise their choice of leaders. "It is not only a privilege to be chosen," he said, "but it is a duty to be fulfilled."

Branch of Pioneer Women Veteran members of the joint board have organized a Trade Union Club affiliate of the Pioneer Women, an organization devoted to

aiding projects in Israel. Gertrude Palmer is chairman of the club; Eva Tarkoff, financial secretary; Edith Kallah, treasurer; Ada Ross, secretary; and Ida Simin, membership chairman.

## Max Segal Feted

Max Segal, veteran business agent of Presses Local 46, was honored with a testimonial dinner Feb. 11 at the Broadwood Hotel. The dinner marked Segal's fortieth birthday. Abe Stein was chairman of the banquet committee and Sam Gutnick, secretary.

## Knitwear Workers Meet by Sections To Name Nominees

Local 124, Knitwear Workers, is scheduled to have its nomination meetings and to elect an Election and Objections Committee at two-section meetings to be held Feb. 18 and 19. It is announced by Manager Louis Nelson.

The Feb. 18 meeting will be held at the Brooklyn Labor Lyceum; the meeting on the 19th will take place in the Roosevelt Auditorium.

## JUSTICE

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## A Step Toward Industry Stability



Employers in the shoulder pad trade join representatives of Local 142 in welcoming F. Nathan Wolf (third from left) as first imperial chairman of their industry. Left to right: David Silvers, attorney for Women's Apparel Shoulder Pad Assn.; Jack Ulrich, the association's executive manager; Wolf; Manager Joe Tobin of Local 142; Harry Ulrich, imperial adviser of the dress industry; and Elias Lieberman, local attorney.

## DRESS JOINT BOARD

## Registration for Retirement

will be accepted

Feb. 1 to April 15, 1950

Those wishing to retire this year must apply in person at the office of the Retirement Fund, 218-32 West 40th St., New York City, in Room 210 (second floor) between the hours of 9 A.M. and 5 P.M.

Members of the locals located outside of New York City should apply at their local office.

Registration will be accepted on days in the order listed below. Those whose last names begin with letter

A to C—from Feb. 1 to Feb. 10  
D to H—from Feb. 13 to Feb. 17  
G to H—from Feb. 20 to Feb. 21  
Feb. 23 to Feb. 24  
I to M—from Feb. 27 to Mar. 1  
N to P—from Mar. 6 to Mar. 10  
Q to R—from Mar. 13 to Mar. 17  
S —from Mar. 20 to Mar. 24  
T to Z—from Mar. 27 to Mar. 31

If you cannot come in during the period set aside for you, you may appear at any time from Apr. 1 to Apr. 15, 1950.

## Dressmakers Will Answer Commies In Feb. 16 Voting

The election campaign in Local 22, Dressmakers' Union, last week headed for its Feb. 16 election deadline with no abatement in the vituperative charges and slanders hurled at the present administration by the Communist-inspired "rank and file" group in the local.

Enjoying the kind of full trade union civil rights which they deny to others in unions that they control, the so-called rank and file group has issued more than a dozen leaflets and broadsides in the past two weeks. The Progressive Group, representing the administration forces, has issued only two leaflets.

In spite of the fact that the conduct of the nominations meeting on Jan. 18 was such as to provide equal rights and privileges to both groups, the Communist group has come forth with their usual fake charges that they were robbed.

In a letter to Manager Charles S. Zimmerman, the chairman of the phony rank and file group makes baseless charges such as the following:

"That 'the administration does not permit free discussion of the problems faced by our members.' The truth is that at the nominations meeting the chairman scrupulously granted equal speaking privileges to members of both groups in order to forestall such a charge as is now made by the so-called rank and file."

Manager Zimmerman replied to the letter by stating that since it was "nothing more than a continuation of your usual election propaganda and slander, I have turned it over to the Progressive Group, with whom you are maintaining the election, for any reply they may see fit to make."

### Progressives Reply

On Feb. 2 Louis Rosenwald and Joseph Freedman, replying in the name of the Progressive Group, declared:

"The basic fact is that you have been overwhelmingly represented by the membership in the fullest and most democratic expression of opinion. All your falsehoods, all your irresponsible slanders, cannot change that. You know that you are thoroughly discredited with the membership. Why do you keep on

writing the kind of letters you do? Can it be that what you're really doing is trying to save face with the Communist Party by explaining away your humiliating defeat? Maybe your Communist Party masters will be impressed with your arguments and excuses. All we can tell you is that the dressmakers will not. The dressmakers know you; they know your record; they know what you stand for—and they have shown unmistakably what they think of you!"

### Learning 'The Works' at First Hand



Vice Pres. Julius Hochman describes all operations of garment manufacture to delegation of Japanese and German trade unionists who visited Dress Joint Board headquarters on Feb. 2. Left to right are Shingo Kaito, Isutaro Suehiro, Kaname Hoshida, Manager Julius Hochman, Ramon Katsiford, Charlotte Schurer and Otto Mischner. (See story.)

### No Opposition Slate Named in Local 89 Election

Has the Communist "opposition" in Local 89 gone underground? Or have they constantly dwindling forces simply disintegrated?

For the first time in nearly years, the tiny Communist element among the Italian dressmakers has failed to present any candidates in the crucial elections for officers and convention delegates. Not only did they refrain from naming an official slate, they didn't even nominate a single individual candidate, although they had a full week's time in which to do so.

Apparently, the Communists feared they would make a worse showing than in the halting of three years ago, when their "rank and file" nomination for manager obtained barely a thousand votes against the 22,813 cast for First Vice Pres. Luigi Antonini.

Despite the unbroken stream of vilification and slander directed against Antonini by the Italian-language Communist press in this country, the party-liners have been unable to dent the solid support given by the Italian dressmakers to an administration marked by an impressive record of achievements.

Antonini again heads the administration list, sponsored by the "Local 89 Welfare League" as candidate for manager-secretary. Running mates include John Oels, recommended for assistant manager; Giovanni Giardina, named to head the executive board; Anthony Gion, selected for the post of president of the General Council, and a full slate of business agents, price adjusters, board members and convention delegates.

Members of the Election and Objection Committees were chosen at the district meetings, and all candidates nominated by the Welfare League were elected.

### FIGHT POLIO!

Join March of Dimes!

## Local 60 Officers Returned to Posts By Historic Vote

Administration forces in Local 60, Dress Pressers, delivered a smashing blow against the Communist opposition in that local in the elections held Feb. 7 at Christ Church, it is reported.

At the end of a campaign in which both sides engaged in

vigorous exchanges, the staff headed by Manager Max Cohen and Chairman Jack Spitzer was returned to office with the largest vote in the history of the local.

The administration's candidates received 2,071 votes while the Communist candidates garnered 188 votes.

In the election held three years ago the Communist-inspired ticket pulled 410 votes.

The campaign was marked by the usual vilifications and slanders to be found in all contests in which Communists participate. Administration officers attempted with apparent success to keep the issues clear before the membership in spite of the confusion whipped up by the opposition. In the meetings held during the campaign local of-

ficers presented complete reviews of the administration record. The results of the contest prove that this was sufficient to expose the unscrupulous methods and tactics of the Communist-inspired group.

### 3 Local 22 Classes to Switch Day of Meeting

A change in the schedule of Local 22 classes has been announced by Educational Director Jo Mann. Hereafter the sessions will meet on Friday, Psychology of Human Behavior on Wednesday and the Glee Club on Thursday. Time of the class is 4 P.M. at union headquarters, 218 West 40th St.

## Joint Board's Role Told Asia, European Groups

The New York Dress Joint Board once again became a classroom for demonstrating the operation of democracy in the trade unions of America. On Feb. 2 a group of 15 trade unionists from overseas made a tour of joint board headquarters after visiting the General Office of the ILOU and before going on a conducted tour of a large dress firm.

The group was comprised of five trade union representatives from Japan and 10 union officers from Germany who are visiting this country under the auspices of the Bureau of International Affairs, Department of Labor.

At the Dress Joint Board the group first assembled in the office of General Manager Julius Hochman to hear an explanation of the various functions of the Dress Joint Board. Hochman made special reference to those phases of the dress industry which best exemplify this nation's ability to produce efficiently and inexpensively for a mass consumer's market.

To illustrate his talk, Hochman exhibited garments on loan from the International Co., the Welby Dress Co. and Nettie Rosenblatt. The New York Dress Institute cooperated in setting up the exhibit.

From the general manager's office the group proceeded to the Royal Dress Co. on West 23rd St. Business Agent Ralph Lammington of the Popular Prices Department took the visitors through the plant and explained the different operations in garment making.

The Bureau of International Affairs of the Department of Labor has been conducting this group as a cross-country tour. Robert Hurwich is in charge of the group. The purpose of these visits is to provide the trade union representatives of other nations with information on the functioning of major unions and industries in this country.

## OUT-OF-TOWN REPT.

Harry Wander • Manager

## Maidenform Pact Grants Wage Rise, Retirement

After two months of negotiations, an agreement has been reached between the union and the Maidenform Brothers Co. providing new benefits for almost 1,000 workers employed in the firm's plants in Bayonne, Jersey City and Perth Amboy, N. J. The workers have enthusiastically endorsed the terms of the agreement.

Negotiations were conducted by Israel Horowitz, assistant general manager of the EOT, with the assistance of a shop committee composed of Pete Capitano, Joseph Stuyver, Harry Rockoff, Norah Biele and Paul Dore.

Wage increase in the new agreement ranged as high as 31 per cent when new minimums for crafts previously receiving \$10 and \$20 per week were changed to \$22 and \$35 respectively.

Price workers received a general increase of 7½ per cent. The rate will also be applied to minimums in crafts which were \$25 per week and above. For example, minimums for markers will be raised to \$60 per week and for cutters to \$64.

Time workers got a general increase of 10 per cent, if they are receiving the new scale or above. Those workers working below the scale are to receive an increase up to the scale, or 10 per cent, whichever is higher.

In addition, a retirement fund is established. The firm will contribute 1 per cent of its total gross weekly payroll to the fund.

The benefits of the new 3-year contract will be retroactive to Jan. 1, 1950, although the old contract does not expire until Mar. 31. Although negotiations were protracted, Maidenform displayed an understanding of the legitimate demands of the workers, and discussion were always on an amiable basis.

## EARLY DIMES TOTALS SHOW '50 DONATIONS TO TOP LAST YEAR'S

Preliminary reports on March of Dimes contributions by affiliates of the Eastern Out-of-Town Department indicate that totals for this worthy cause will this year exceed the amounts turned in in 1949. Reports show that the department's affiliate accounts for \$3,147 with some donations still forthcoming. Complete returns last year amounted to \$1,264 for the work of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis.

EOT managers report the following donations:

Jack Grossman reports \$2,500 for Long Island; Jack Benach reports \$171 for Connecticut with New Haven totaling in \$554, Bridgeport \$149 and South Norwalk \$280. For Upstate New York Ed Springer reports \$451. In the Hudson Valley, Poughkeepsie turned in \$443 and Kingston, \$97, according to Morris Estrack.

From New Jersey, Herman Slovis reports \$407 for Long Branch; Harry Pomer reports \$410 for Plainfield; William Altman reports \$611 for the City of South Jersey collected \$503, according to Simon Baumgardner.

Palmer turned in \$508 and Elizabeth \$248, according to Joe Delaney; Vice Pres. Nifro reports \$230 coming from Passaic; Morris Estrack adds \$250 for Orange. Louis Hoff reports incomplete returns of \$1,800 for Mt. Vernon.

## Salute to a Retiring Officer



Business Agent John Jennings (center) got sincere thanks of Local 144-222 executive board and other Newark members at a dinner at the Hour Glass Restaurant on Feb. 2. Among those on hand to bid him farewell were (seated, left to right) Catharine Bobbitt, Lydia Molinari, Eileen Withman; (standing) Theresa Machia, Alice Leibowitz, Alice Oade and Anna Niebergall.

## Minimum Raised in Renewals Worked Out with 4 EOT Firms

Renewal of agreements with four firms scattered throughout the Eastern Out-of-Town Department will mean gains for 875 workers employed by these firms, according to General Manager Harry Wander.

The renewal with Nitzkraft, Orange, N. J., negotiated by Manager Morris Estrack, sets up a minimum wage of \$65 a week for cutters, \$40 for spreaders and \$35 for other crafts. A third week's vacation is provided for workers employed by the firm for 10 years or more. The latter provision becomes effective in 1951.

Ed Springer, manager of Local 142, has obtained the following adjustments in the new agreement with Truett Maud, Troy, N. Y.: operators and pressers set at \$24 per week, floor girls at \$22. It was also agreed that when the juvenile apparel industry establishes a retirement fund, the firm will automatically agree to its terms. Pete Delaney, manager of Local 221, negotiated the agreement.

W. O. Swing Co., Elizabeth, N. J., has accepted the following changes in its new agreement: minimums set at \$24 for operators and pressers and \$24 per week, floor girls at \$22. It was also agreed that when the juvenile apparel industry establishes a retirement fund, the firm will automatically agree to its terms. Pete Delaney, manager of Local 221, negotiated the agreement.

Princess Pat Foundations, Bridgeport, Conn., manufacturer of corsets and brassieres whose contract with the union expired Mar. 3, 1950, has renewed its agreement with Local 144. It is reported by Bud Delaney, manager of Local 144, that the firm will pay an additional 14½ per cent of total weekly payroll to the union from which fund its workers will be provided with retirement benefits.

The contract sets minimums of \$15 per hour for cutters, \$9 cents for operators and pressers, and 50 cents for floor help. Twenty-five time workers will receive wage increases ranging from \$1.25 to \$14 per week. In July, 1950 the firm will start paying the union 1 per cent of its total weekly payroll toward a retirement fund.

toni thanked Swing and the association for their "amability to the noble cause of human welfare which knows no divisions based on creed, race or social status."

## Today and Tomorrow

Luigi Antonini

First Vice-Pres. • ILGWU

At this mid-century point, it is appropriate to take stock of the events and achievements of the past five decades, as well as to set our course of action for the years that lie ahead.

The dawn of this century also marked the beginning of America's rise to its position as the leading nation of the world. Its steadily increasing dominance in world commerce and industry; its pioneering in the vital field of air transportation, following the Wright Brothers' experiments of 1903; the election of Woodrow Wilson in 1912, which made political liberalism an integral part of Federal policy—these are but some of the steps which ultimately resulted in the tremendous and decisive impact that is now exerted by the United States in international affairs.

Unlike the relatively peaceful Victorian era that preceded it, the first half of the Twentieth Century has been marked by alternating periods of war, revolution, civil strife and counter-revolution. In the first decade, there was the Russo-Japanese War, which was a major cause of the Russian Revolution of 1905. The Russian and Serbian and Balkan wars of 1912-1913, prelude to World War I, which ended by establishing the Kaiser's dream of imperial conquest.

The great hopes for freedom aroused by the Russian Revolution of March, 1917 were shortly frustrated by the November coup engineered by Lenin and his Bolshevik associates, whose dictatorship rapidly degenerated into the current Stalinist totalitarian horror.

In the rise of Fascist and Nazi dictatorships, the destruction of the League of Nations and the ensuing armed aggressions which led to World War II, the isolationist policies of the United States, fostered

## Better Dress Assn. Chips In \$5,000 For Children in Italy and America



Association representatives (left to right) D. Marmelstein, Ed Krusinski and Jack Rosen present check to First Vice Pres. Antonini as John Gels looks on.

More than \$21,000 already has been contributed by members of Local 40, Italian Dressmakers, to the annual "March of Dollars" drive. First Vice Pres. Luigi Antonini announced on a recent "Voice of Local 40" radio program.

He indicated that this was but a partial return since subscription lists have not yet been received from numerous shops where the season was slow in getting started. When all lists have been collected the total will be much larger. Antonini predicted.

The fund is divided equally for the National Foundation for

Infantile Paralysis and relief for needy children in Italy.

A check for \$1,000 was presented to the campaign by Jack Rosen, on behalf of the United Better Dress Manufacturers' Assn. Participating in the "Voice of 40" program, the association's president lauded the activities of the local and its manager in helping to restore healthy economic and political conditions in Italy.

"Foster Italy, of all the war-torn nations," Rosen declared, "has shown an amazing spirit of unity and enterprise. Schools which were destroyed during the fascist regime and the confusion of war are being opened; an agrarian revolution is taking place; improved and modern industrial machinery and methods are supplying people with more and more jobs."

"You, Mr. Antonini, have had a great and decided influence in shaping the political, economic and social development of Italy and her people. It was you who fought for human rights, without which there could not be political and economic rights."

In accepting the contribution, An-

primarily by the Republican Party, bear a heavy responsibility.

It was Franklin D. Roosevelt who destroyed the isolationist myth, who realized the vital role this country had to play in the defense and extension of world democracy, whose New Deal constituted toward the end of our worst economic depression and the start of a period of unprecedented trade union growth, and who sponsored the enactment of significant amounts of progressive social legislation.

And, just as this past year was drawing to a close, came the birth of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, putting an end to Communist domination of the world labor movement and freeing it for the struggle against all forms of political, spiritual or economic oppression.

What of the future? We dare not even attempt to prophesy, for the second half of this century will bring, however, we can resolve now to intensify our efforts on all fronts which will contribute to greater happiness and security for mankind during the next five decades. We must work to strengthen the trade union movement, and thereby bring about the improvements in living standards that will go a long way in securing economic stability and preventing future depression.

We should increase our active participation in labor's political drives against the reactionary forces who stand behind the Taft-Hartley Act and who "timidize" us by threatening to withdraw support advances in social legislation.

Most continue, this year as in the past, to fulfill our duties as the cause of human solidarity. One example of effective action along

FIGHT POLIO!  
Join March of Dimes!

# Will Allen

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The mine drama is on, with all the grim appurtenances of a mid-winter labor Valley Forge in evidence. Miners' children, from Alabama to Pennsylvania, are staying out of school because their mothers find no food for their lurch backs, many diggers' families in many localities are, or soon will be, on relief.

Two abhorrent Federal injunctions—the Taft-Hartley subcommittee, as bitterly distasteful to President Truman as they are to the miners and to all organized labor—have raised their ugly heads upon this miserable scene. Lewis has ordered his miners back to work, but, at this writing, the coal diggers are defiantly rejecting this order. The cry in the mine fields is "Injunction dig no coal!" Meanwhile, Lewis has renewed discussions with the operators, though hopes are dim that anything tangible will come out of these new parleys.

A simple majority of the American people, nevertheless, are still largely in the dark as to what exact, after 11 months of charges and counter-charges, the Taft-Hartley wrecked all chances of peace without a strike in the coal fields. The President's three-man board of inquiry in the coal situation laid the cold, hard facts down on the line. "Justice" readers are entitled to know these unvarnished facts. This is how it adds up:

Relying on the coercive powers of the Taft-Hartley Act, the coal operators, 1. initiated the conflict; 2. were the ones to break off negotiations every time; 3. refused to bargain collectively, unless the miners agreed to a 15-cent-a-day raise and a 15-cent-a-hour increase in the welfare fund.

And what was this fait and phony show-off all about? The President's board says it right on the line, in these words:

"The significant fact which emerged from this inquiry is that this is basically a dispute, at the present stage, over the wage and welfare fund contribution issue. Behind the tactical maneuverings of the negotiators is fundamentally an issue of dollars and cents."

But what about the public interest? As of Feb. 13, there is approximately an 8-day supply of coal above ground. The U. S. Bureau of Mines generally considers anything less than a 30-day supply as "near the danger point to the national economy and welfare."

This hard fact provides the public with good reason for a thoughtful re-examination of two fundamental and critical questions:

1. Whether the kind of genuine collective bargaining that produces real working agreements between two parties is possible when one of the parties comes to the bargaining table armed with the gun of a coercive law (Taft-Hartley) and depends upon the gun in its pocket to intimidate the other party into agreement?
2. Whether coal (real stuff, that you can burn in a furnace) can be realistically produced at the stroke of a judge's pen, or even by the pen of Congress.

The coal operators, within the past 10 days, got the two main things they have been demanding. And they got them by law. They insisted that the President invoke the Taft-Hartley Law. They got that two weeks ago. They also demanded a court injunction ordering the coal miners to dig coal. They got that a week ago. That is, they



got the injunction . . . but not the coal.

And what has the public gotten? A week ago, when a Federal Court in Washington handed down the injunction ordering the coal miners back into the pits, there was a two-week supply of coal above ground. Today there is only a one-week supply of coal above ground.

How did the nation get into this position? Who started the coal conflict? The President's board lays the blame on the Southern Coal Producers' Assn. The board says the contract currently in controversy is substantially the same one which both parties agreed to in 1947, and which with modifications they agreed to again in 1948. The coal producers, therefore, had agreed to the terms of the contract twice before. The third time up, however, the operators wanted to change the rules.

In short, the coal operators demanded that the union give up certain advantageous portions of the old contracts without any further discussion—give up its position without any bargaining at all on those points!

On Apr. 21, 1947, the President's board reports, "The Southern Coal Producers' Assn. gave the union notice of termination effective at the expiration of the agreement on June 30, 1948."

## "Please Pay Attention!"



## Bright Future

By HAYA KRAKOFF

For her I must believe  
That this cycle spinning fury  
Shall soon complete its course.  
For her I will envisage the day  
When my best is in his hands  
To show that the flood of hate is  
ever.  
For her I now form my eye inside  
This glowing darkness, on  
The small new dawn that is there,  
still;  
And lose my eye beyond defacing  
theater.  
To the muted voice of peace which  
Must grow clear again.

Who has been responsible for the breaking-off of negotiations? The President's board answers this question as follows:

"The Southern wage conference met for a total of 64 days and was terminated by the operators on Nov. 3, 1947."

"The Northern conference met a total of 21 days prior to Oct. 23, 1948, when these negotiations were terminated by operators. They were resumed in February, 1949. The negotiations which followed on Feb. 1 and 2 broke down without any effective bargaining as the parties debated conditions precedent to bargaining." The operators withdrew.

What were these "conditions precedent to bargaining?"

The coal operators wanted advance agreement from the union that it would give up without argument at the bargaining table the union shop provision in the old contract, the administration of the pension and welfare fund, and the "willing and able to work" clause. The President's board reports clearly on this point, saying:

"The last bargaining conference, on Feb. 2, had ended upon the withdrawal of Northern operators when the union moved this resolution:

"The mine workers more than we proceed to negotiate a contract and that in the negotiations all matters before the conference are subjects for consideration and negotiation and are not to be considered as conditions precedent to agreement."

That, of course, makes clear who refused to bargain, and likewise makes clear how the nation arrived at the position it finds itself in today.

## MOVES

By HAYA KRAKOFF

THE NEW YORK TIMES has a grim and graphic glimpse backward at the crucial struggle of the American air force to bomb the Nazi power into dust in peacetime. The air force is in a position of tactical and tactical and in depicting the crushing pressure of long-range strategy, this is one of the most vivid and convincing war films yet presented.

The story concerns the inner aspects of a young general newly appointed to command a bomber group whose members have already been subjected to severe action and suffered critical losses. With highly important missions in the office, he introduces a rigorous discipline in order to bring his men to a pitch of "maximum effort." This means pushing some of them to the breaking point and beyond, but he per-



sists ruthlessly in preparing them for action that reaches heroic heights. The scenes showing a bomber crashing into the target and then exploding are almost unbearably exciting.

The story is about a brilliant job as the commander torn between the extremes of duty and pity. The rest of the cast is uniformly excellent.

"KEY TO THE CITY" is a fast-paced farce which piles on the slapstick in better-tasteful fashion. Its movement is somewhat confusing, but the result is a film which is kept funny.

The diary deals with the affair that flares up between the male mayor of a California city and the female mayor of a Maine town when they meet at a convention of American mayors. He is a rough-and-ready former longshoreman who hates professional politicians, while she is a haughty dignitary bent on serious civic accomplishments.

Designed specifically for the talents of Clark Gable and Lovett Young, it need hardly be explained that he proceeds, in gruff and arrogant manner, to tumble her from her high perch in short order—and she, in her coy demureness, finds her humiliation a delightful experience.

"YOUNG MAN WITH A HORN" is a dramatic disappointment. Its theme is the curiously interesting conflict between the artist and a commercialized society, but none of the elements of that struggle is developed in this picture. It emerges as merely another success story in the entertainment world.

The story revolves around a young orphan with a gift for playing the trumpet. Taught by a Negro genius, the boy soon gets into the big time but finds himself utterly disgusted with the slick music of the name bands. Nevertheless, he wins recognition and money, but unfortunately marries a woman who exploits his sensitivities and drives him into the gutter.

Kirk Douglas puts a lot of intensity into the lead role, and Tommy Ray is a swell singer, but top honors go to Harry James whose trumpet performance on the second track is magnificently melodious.

# MOVIES

The peculiar nature of the study recently made by the New York board found, for instance, that the net out of business in 1949 was the highest since the most successful times, though business at the end of 1949 then was the best of the beginning of that year.

The reason for this was, of course, the further fact that even more firms went into business than there were failures. If the picture were the most successful since 1943, the new arrivals came in numbers unmatched since 1941.

The study presented the following tabulation of firms:

Year	Jan.	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
1941	730	244	178	78	101	101	101	101	101	101	101	101
1942	708	107	197	78	101	101	101	101	101	101	101	101
1943	718	121	101	101	101	101	101	101	101	101	101	101
1944	708	87	44	44	44	44	44	44	44	44	44	44
1945	841	109	44	44	44	44	44	44	44	44	44	44
1946	806	180	55	121	101	101	101	101	101	101	101	101
1947	1061	121	178	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90
1948	966	97	137	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90
1949	905	227	139	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90

A closer scrutiny of the figures shows that the total number of New York firms operating during the Forties, after a slight decline in the first year of the war, rose steadily from 730 in 1943 to a high of 1,021 by the end of 1946. Since then it declined to a total of 96 at the start of 1949. In that year it rose to 943.

From 1943 through 1946 business was good and profits prospects were high. In each of the years in this period more firms came into the industry than went out of it. Only in 1947 did firms leave the industry more than came in. The net result of 1947 and 1948 was the total reversed. This was sufficient to wipe out the increase in the total number of firms so that at the end of 1948 there were the same number of firms as at the end of 1945. During the interval, the total number of firms had risen to more than 1,000. But in the three years 1948 firms came in and 388 went out.

The number of new firms declined through 1944 due chiefly to wartime controls of materials and men. It rose in 1945 and 1946, but in the next two years and then soared in 1949.

The exits from the business also declined through 1944, began to rise in 1945 and have been rising, with the exception of 1948, since then.

Business failures measure business instability rather than profitability. Increasing business uncertainty, for whatever justified or unfounded reasons, is gauged by the number of failures. One such measure is defined as the apparent annual failure per 10,000 enterprises. Table I shows the number of failures per 10,000:

Year	Failures per 10,000
1949	39.7
1948	34.9
1947	17.4
1946	2.1
1945	4.0

Textile products, including apparel, are among the industries





## BOOK REVIEW

Myron Spachendorfer

MEAT AND MAN, by Lewis Corey.  
The Viking Press, \$4.50.

With compelling interest and impressive scholarship, Lewis Corey has written a unique and difficult task. He has told, within the scope of a single volume, the story of cattle-raising, slaughtering, meat packing, and the retailing of meat. He has surveyed the long history of workers' campaigns in each of these fields to organize for better wages and working conditions. He has explored the tremendous advances made in recent



years in the chemistry of foods and the principles of proper diet. Corey is on more familiar ground when he examines the growth of each section of the industry from small beginnings to the gigantic proportions of monopoly, and he is at his best in his evaluation of food as a weapon for peace and for democracy in a world where hunger and need are a menace to the loss of liberty.

By treating his subject in this manner, Corey makes it the key to an understanding of similar and related experiences in other parts of the economy. From ranch to kitchen range, meat passes through several stages, at each of which preceding occurs for the purpose of making profits. Corey digs back into the history of the industry to tell how the livestock men and particularly the packers cleaned the field for themselves.

In mustering the facts and in rendering his judgments, Corey is especially fair. He notes that "in World War II the packing industry did a good job of increasing production. While most of the more than 100-per-cent increase in meat came from higher prices, a substantial part of it represented greater physical output."

Corey states that the Big Four of the meat packing industry—Swift, Armour, Wilson, Cudahy—control somewhat over one-half the total output of the packing industry.

He charges that it is "impossible to restore competition within the monopoly area, and even if it could be restored, competition that is limited to price and profit will not necessarily benefit the food industries."

He argues, instead, for giving the production and distribution of food "a public utility character, with monopoly corporations converted into public corporations on the model of TVA."

"Meat and Man" is a model work of its kind. Its purpose is to align and evaluate the facts of the great meat industry, and this it does in a manner bound to increase the understanding of man's production and consumption of food.

THE RAMPARTS WE GUARD, by R. M. MacIver. The Macmillan Co., \$3.

Dr. MacIver renders a valuable service in this short but stimulating book. He examines closely the common concepts of liberty, freedom, democracy and the other cornerstones of our way of life.

Of these most of us are frequent and often reckless believers. Yet those who have only a generalized understanding of these important

## One Thought

By MAX PRESS

You can read a hundred books if you will.  
On life, love, God, on death and life and pain!  
You shall find when you put the words aside,  
One thought will haunt you, one thought will remain.

One thought will be with you and one alone  
Will tear your heart as you near the dark shore,  
And dance of your loved one drift away,  
It is: "I should have lived more and loved more."

features of our society stand in danger of allowing them to slip away.

Understanding is the price of violence, and the lack of it may lead us to duplicate the errors for which we accuse the totalitarian.

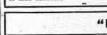
Dr. MacIver argues that in the course of this compact work the author examines the meaning of liberty, equality and fraternity, showing that these have many varieties of each. He also demonstrates the difficulties involved in determining what constitutes the "rule of the people."

In words that ring with truth, Dr. MacIver concludes that "in this modern world there is only one faith that can sustain the unity of a people, the greater unity that gives free play to the richness of difference and contributes to the creative life of a community—and that is the faith of democracy. No other faith remains that can unite them as citizens, as members of the nation-community."

## Good Books Are Friends You Can Always Have With You

True literature reflects the thinking and conditions of the times. Great writers appeal to the heart and the mind. Books keep you informed and add to the enjoyment of life.

The ILGWU Educational Department Book Division will help our members choose such books and will also contribute generously toward the purchase cost of their selection.



## People and Politics IN EUROPE

By AL DENSER

PARIS—Strolling along the Rue de la Paix in the shadow of the famous statue of Napoleon in the Place Vendôme, I stopped to admire the draped designs of exquisite silk frocks in the windows of internationally known French couturiers. As I passed one shop,

I noted several Americans admiring a number of gowns, and heard one of them saying, "I wonder who she was that into a \$7.95 best seller?"

"This brought the realization that here in these windows were the inspirations for many of the fashions and trends which later are transformed into popular-



priced merchandise on Seventh Ave. in New York City and in the other garment-making centers of the United States and Canada.

"The methods of producing garments in France are, to say the least, reminiscent of the days so well described in ILGWU literature, when each worker in a garment factory did the cutting, the draping, the sewing and other work associated with the manufacture of women's clothing. The 'cousins,' the versatile girls who work for the famous couturiers of Paris, are trained to perform almost every kind of operation. Each garment is a masterpiece of workmanship, much of it done by hand.

However, since there is an almost complete absence of modern production techniques, the cost of every dress, suit and coat is quite high. The price often runs, with big Americans, are well beyond the reach of the girls working in the shops. How different from back home where each gar-

ment worker except in the very highest priced shops can buy what she makes without unduly stretching her budget!

Not so long ago, after one of my daily strolls, I remembered that Irving Brown, European representative of the AFL, was in town. A phone call, and we got together at a round of visits to combat the influences of Communism in Europe.

The recent establishment of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions in London was the culmination of a round of victories in the fight against Communism being waged by Irving and other representatives of free unions. Those of us in America admire his good work here joined in congratulating him on the part he has played in the fight to create this new world body of free workers.

It was just a short two years ago that the AFL stood practically alone in its refusal to go along with the Communist-controlled World Federation of Free Unions. Today, the position of the AFL has been justified. Leading trade union federations in democracy throughout the world left the WFTU because of its politically Machiavellian leadership, whose aim is to establish a Communist dictatorship wherever it can.

In my travels through France, from the docks of Marseilles, to the Riviera and Cherbourg, to the stories of Abba and Lorraine, from the mint of the Lure region to the industrial centers of the Rhone, in workers' homes and in union offices, I have been greatly inspired by the courage of French men and women. These people, who have suffered so much in two long and costly wars, still maintain their faith in a better world to come and are working hard to achieve it.

Workers who belong to France's democratic unions—whether they be officers or rank-and-file members—are driving themselves to the problems of securing better working conditions and increased production. They are striving to build up confidence and cooperation between labor and management. They are in many instances convinced that the Marshall Plan is helping France to attain a better living standard through improved technology and they pass the word along to their fellow-workers.

It is my belief that the fight against those who would establish the dictatorship of Communism is definitely a European one. Western Europe. Free labor is a potent factor in that struggle, and the Marshall Plan program is designed to give it all possible assistance to the free nations.

A vital part of the program of the Marshall Plan in France is the transmission of technical know-how to workers and management alike. This includes that very important tool for the betterment of human relations, collective bargaining know-how.

Al Denser is a labor activist in the ECA Mission to France. The views expressed here are his own and do not necessarily represent the views of ECA.



## THE SOUTHWEST

Meyer Perlstien  
Southwest Regional Director

# Pay Skilled Over 75c, Balk Bosses Are Told

Introduction of the new 75-cent legal minimum wage is producing serious problems in some Southwest plants, but the Regional Office will continue to remind employers of the need to protect not only the lower paid worker but to provide an incentive for the more skilled employee.

Special discussions of the new minimum have taken place with the following groups:

**Saltbury Manufacturing Co.** Minoregistered circuiters were distributed to this Saltbury, Mo., firm in its plant on Jan. 29 telling the workers that in spite of the new minimum, piece rates will not be increased, so that the experienced workers will be unable to get the wage adjustments due them.

The union promptly dispatched a letter to Milton G. Rosenfeld of the company explaining that no human being can work without an incentive. Failure to adjust wages is not only unfair to the workers but it will also be unprofitable to the firm, since workers cannot continue producing the most for the least.

Despite a delay due to Rosenfeld's absence from the plant, the matter is determined not to lose any time in getting an adjustment for those workers.

**Brammer Garment Co.** Some of the same situation arose with this Paola, Kan., firm. The union received a number of complaints about the firm told its workers those now earning 75 cents must continue working for that wage. Since the company stated it does not intend to raise more help, the present workers will have to work even harder without receiving a higher wage.

The union sent the following message to Harry Seruca, the manufacturer who formerly operated a "shop in New York": "To tell your more experienced employees that you will force them to work harder for the wage Congress set for the lowest worker with 12 weeks' training is an act that strikes at the heart of intelligent labor relations. This is not even good business, since to human in a resentful mood can continue to produce at normal efficiency."

"We have always taught our members that they must give their employers an honest day's work."

## Tuf-Nut Refuses to Chip in for Health Fund, Holiday Pay

Conferences are continuing with the Tuf-Nut Garment Co. for welfare and wage improvements asked in behalf of its workers by the Southwest Region. At a meeting of union and company representatives on Feb. 2, the Little Rock, Ark., firm remained adamant in its refusal to make payroll contributions for the purpose of establishing a medical center for its employees.

The company also turned down a request for paid holidays.

Tuf-Nut management acknowledges the need to provide piece rates that will serve as production incentives, however, for at the Feb. 2 meeting it did grant an increase retroactive to Jan. 25.

This offered raise fails to take into account the new legal minimum, the union contends. Nor does it provide proper compensation for the more skilled and experienced workers.

## Crown S. A. Queen At Garment Ball

Over 3,000 persons participated in the gala ceremony marking the coronation of Ruth Potts as "Queen" of the annual annual ILOWU ball sponsored by the San Antonio locals at City Auditorium last month. Ruth, a member of Local 180, is employed at the Texas Tiny Frocks Co.

Mayor Jack White of San Antonio, who presented the crown to the Queen, stated he was especially pleased to officiate at the ceremony inasmuch as all proceeds from the event were to be used for the new union health center and hospital to be built soon on land donated by the city.

Other members of the "royal family" consisted of a princess and 12 courtiers, all dressed in lavish court robes and ball gowns. They were formally presented by Master of Ceremonies Henry Gonzalez.

In addition to the Mayor, other notable attendees included the San Antonio social event including City Commissioners of the Fire and Police Departments, local and county judges, and all manufacturers maintaining contractual relations with the union.

## K.C. HEALTH CENTER ALREADY HAS FULL APPOINTMENT LIST

Official opening of the Garment Workers' Health Center in Kansas City on Feb. 8 highlighted a number of significant advances in health and medical benefits for Southwest members.

A large number of patients were examined on the first day of the Kansas City center's functioning, and officials have announced that a full schedule of appointments already has been made. Approximately 2,500 workers will be served by the institution, which is financed by manufacturers' contributions to a health fund. Dr. Mark M. Marks is medical director.

## To Raise \$10,000

An increase in the employer contribution to the San Antonio Health Fund is provided in the supplemental agreement which has been submitted by the Regional Office for the employers' approval. The increase is needed to raise an additional \$10,000 which the manufacturers agreed would cover the cost of a new building to house the San Antonio health center. The city has already contributed the land on which the building will stand.

## Behind New Kansas City Health Center



Members of the Garment Industry Health Fund Commission who have been instrumental in planning and establishing new diagnostic center in Kansas City are (seated, left to right) Manager Sam White, Mrs. Garnett Chinnery, Mrs. Addie Bruenger, Joseph Fried, Virginia Ullrich, executive secretary of health center, and Vice Pres. Meyer Perlstien. Standing: R. C. Daugherty, consultant; Sidney Magazine, auditor; Mike Finn, Robert Slegman, Joseph Karschka.

## Tripping the Light Fantastic



When Local 348 in Dallas, Tex., needed entertainment for its holiday party last month, Henrietta Vargas, a member well versed in the Latin rhythms, was a natural choice. Julian Rayne is her partner.

# 3 Ely & Walker Plants Ratify New Wage Rise

Significant wage increases have been won for workers at three Ely & Walker Dry Goods plants and then were ratified on Feb. 1 at meetings of Local 409, Quincy, Ill., and Locals 288 and 195 of Vandalla and Warrenton, Mo., respectively.

The new boost is as follows: 5 per cent to be added to earnings of those making 75 to 80 cents an hour; a 10 cent boost for those making 80 cents an hour; and a 1-cent hourly increase for time workers.

The Quincy and Vandalla memberships were addressed by Ray Hagerty and May Handley; the Warrenton membership heard Ware Tobin. In all three locals, the majority of the members voted for ratification.

## Hold Out for Bonus At Mode O'Day

The Mode O'Day Garment Co. was notified on Jan. 28 that the union must insist that the bonus

previously agreed to be included in the renewed agreement. The firm's attorney had approved a tentative agreement granting the bonus, but the board of directors said it would not consider it. Amount of the bonus was to be 10 per cent for piece workers earning 80 cents or more an hour and 6 per cent for those averaging between 75 and 80 cents.

Though the minimum hourly scales were increased by the firm, this does not alter the fact that an 87½-cent average with no bonus will penalize the most experienced workers, the union stated.

Paul F. Umkey, executive secretary of the International Union, notified the company from New York that the national agreement between the ILOWU and this company expires shortly. He suggested a conference to renew the agreement covering all shops the company operates throughout the country.

## NLRB Takes Grace Garment Co. Case To Circuit Court

The National Labor Relations Board in Washington, D. C., has filed a petition with the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals of the 10th District, asking the court to enforce the NLRB order issued some time ago against the Grace Garment Co. of Clinton.

The order provided that the company must recognize the ILOWU as the sole bargaining agent for the workers of the Clinton plant, and must bargain on improvements and conditions desired by the workers.

NLRB litigation was initiated by the union several years ago when the firm refused to bargain despite an NLRB victory in a plant poll.

## What About Pa. Blouses



Union and employer representatives got together recently to discuss implications of new Local 25 contract on blouse industry in Pennsylvania. Seated around table, left to right, are Charles Meltzer, Marlene Blouse Co.; Grace Sordagna, ILGWU Eastern District manager; Vice Pres. Charles Krueider, manager of Local 25; New York Blousemakers' Vice Pres. David Gingold, Northeast director; Lloyd Cabin, Blouse Contractors Ass'n; and Hyman Hochberg, Nazareth Dress Co.

## Kayser Talks Center on Dues, Health Benefits

A conference between Vice Pres. David Gingold and representatives of the Julius Kayser Co. was held last week to clarify matters pertaining to the collection of dues and distribution of health benefits.

The firm operated a number of plants in Northeast Department territory. In this case the check-off system is in effect. One subject of the conference was the fact that the firm refused to collect the assessment levied by the 1947 ILGWU Convention. The conference clarified the Taft-Hartley implication of this practice and an agreement was reached.

At the same meeting Director Gingold again raised the question of making the services of the Union Health Center in Allentown available to Kayser workers employed in the Allentown area. Until now these workers have made no contribution to the support of the center and have, therefore, been denied the use of its facilities. This was the result of a company plan which provides a number of health and welfare benefits on a uniform basis in all of the company plants. Firm representatives have stated that the stability of these benefits for which the company pays requires that they be uniform in all of its shops and that therefore their workers in the Allentown area must be denied the services of the center.

The union contends, however, that Kayser workers in the Allentown area, in spite of company policy, must be put on an equal footing with other garment workers in the area. That means eligibility for center benefits.

It was agreed that time would be allowed for the company's board of directors to consider this demand.

## Charter Presented New ILG Affiliate At Oneonta, N. Y.

Members of Local 510, Oneonta, N. Y., celebrated the receipt of their ILGWU charter on Jan. 24. The document was presented to Mrs. Nicholas Moffre, president of the new local, by International Representative Anthony Blasing. More than 300 members witnessed the ceremony.

Members of Local 510 are employed by the Oneonta Dress Co. In a contract negotiated last July with this firm, the members received sick benefits and other welfare dues, a number of paid legal holidays and vacations and important increases in rates.

Officers of the local who had applied for the charter are Mrs. Moffre, Ella Haddet, Jennie Crandall, Gertrude Cook, Berline Felsberg, Edith Rungelstad, Margaret Hansen, Joseph Ruzarski, Phyllis Altman and Minnie Campbell.

## DELAY IN DRAWING UP BIBERMAN CONTRACT PROVOKES STOPPAGE

The Northeast Department is continuing its prolonged negotiations with Biberman Bros., which operates four plants in different sections of Pennsylvania. The union is seeking several important improvements in a new collective agreement.

The negotiations, in which the union is represented by Field Supervisor Jack Halpern and District Manager Lou Rosta, have been conducted over such a long period as to make necessary the consideration of a number of possibilities that did not enter in at the beginning of negotiations.

Among these has been the enactment of a new legal minimum and the union's policy of establishing higher minimums. Also the trend continues toward increased complexity and number of styles, causing earnings to drop in the face of fixed rates. This has led to work stoppages, now being conducted in three of the four Biberman plants. The union has held that the problem of efficient operation of these plants must be met by management and is not solved by depressing earnings below union standards. Its representatives are asking for the establishment of a guaranteed daily minimum and adjustments of other rates.

## McKETRICK FIRM AGREES TO 85-CENT FLOOR IN 14 PLANTS

McKetrick-Williams, Inc., has indicated its willingness to establish throughout its 14 plants an 80-cent minimum wage and to elevate related rates proportionately. It is announced by Vice Pres. David Gingold. This willingness was declared in a letter to Gingold from Jim Doyle, a member of the firm.

All 14 plants are in the territory under the Northeast Department's jurisdiction. Conference for the renewal of the collective agreement has been prolonged. Vice Pres. Charles S. Zimmerman of the New York Dress Joint Board has participated in these meetings in accordance with a decision of the ILGWU General Executive Board.

That representatives of the New York union join in the negotiations with firms doing business through New York City.

It was also indicated that the firm is willing to grant improvements in paid holidays. McKetrick-Williams plants are located in Pennsylvania, Upstate New York and Maine.

## NORTHEAST DEPARTMENT

David Gingold • Director

## N'East to Fight Ban on Picketing At Meri-Marr Co.

More than 300 garment workers in Pennsylvania are on strike at three key plants in that state, it is reported by Field Supervisor Jack Halpern and Pennsylvania Organization Director Lou Rosta.

## Step Up Plans for Organizing Pittston Garment Factories

In a meeting in Wilkes-Barre, Pa., last week with Organization Director "Red" Green, Manager Min Matheson and Business Agent Jack Weiss, Director Gingold discussed with these staff members the next steps in the campaign to bring complete unionization of the garment workers in Pittston, Pa.

Gingold described working standards in Pittston dress plants as being on a very depressed level. He attributed this to a mixture of fear, suspicion and desperation, which characterizes garment workers as well as small contractors in the Pittston area.

The suspicion arises from earlier experiences in which employers were tipped off to unionization drives. Finally, the desperation is the result of the profits taken out of the work before the garment workers could get the sewing machines. By the time the work is handed from jobber to sub-jobber, from contractor to sub-contractor, little remains in the way of wages for the workers.

To add to the difficult situation, it is now found that there has been a resurgence of the primitive practice of inside sub-contracting in several of the Pittston establishments.

While in Wilkes-Barre, Gingold conferred with Arthur Lorri, a Pittston garment employer whose firm is now being unionized.

The Northeast Department director also saw representatives of the Rosen and Reapert firm. The contract covering this company's two plants in Wilkes-Barre and its plants in Broderson is scheduled to be renewed.

In Broderson, near Stroudsburg, the Northeast Department is conducting its own case for the Meri-Marr Blouse Co. to obtain a permanent injunction banning all picketing at its plant.

The drive to organize Meri-Marr began in November and immediately showed good results. In fact, so good were these results that the firm first seven employees whose work had been previously praised but who had refused the union in its drive.

The firm helped to renege these workers. Later when a disturbance occurred on the picket line the proceedings began for an injunction. The union stipulated it would discontinue picketing which the court was preparing to rule. Now the court has continued the long life of the stipulation indefinitely.

The union is preparing to appeal the ruling making permanent the ban on picketing Meri-Marr. Meanwhile, the Central Labor Union of Stroudsburg has passed a resolution petitioning the court to discontinue the injunction.

**Piquette Out**

The strike against the Piquette Blouse Co. of Hazleton is continuing. At the expiration of its agreement recently this firm merged from its association. In January negotiations, it offered to pay dues in behalf of its workers if the Northeast Department would forego its demand for improvements similar to those won in the recent strike at the same plant.

In addition to its plant in Hazleton where its cutting is done, the company also has factories in Lancaster, Lebanon and Honesdale, Pa.

**Strike 2 Pa. Contractors**

The strike against the Simpson Garment Co. of Simpson, Pa., and York-Mald Co. in York involves more than 150 workers employed in these two plants located more than 250 miles apart.

Both firms are contractors for the New-Tens Co. of Newark, N. J., manufacturer of children's dresses. The walkouts were touched off when the firms refused to include union shop provisions in the collective agreements.

The Eastern Out-of-Town Department is conducting a drive to unionize the New-Tens Co. in Newark.

## Wilmington Firm's New Pact Has 80c Minimum

The agreement with the Quality Manufacturing Co. of Wilmington, Del., has been reported. It is reported by Field Supervisor Jack Halpern. Featured are an 80-cent minimum and improvements in health and vacation benefits. Manager Ada Rose participated in the negotiations.

**FIGHT POLIO!**  
Join March of Dimes!

## As Oneonta Local Joined ILGWU Family



International Representative Anthony Blasing [center] presents ILGWU charter to Mrs. Nicholas Moffre, president of new Local 510, Oneonta, N. Y., at ceremony held last month. Workers are employed at Oneonta Dress Co., a Jonathan-Logan plant. [See story.]

I. L. G. W. U.

Union Health Insurance

Pauline Newman

# Ask Top-Notch Speakers To Define Welfare State

An impressive battery of speakers has been secured for the ILGWU spring panel discussion on Mar. 4 at 12:30 P.M. Invited to discuss the timely and all-important topic of the welfare state are the following economists and educators: Dr. Eli Ginzberg of Columbia University, Dr. Emanuel Stein of New York University, Dr. Harry J. Carmann, dean of Columbia College, Dr. Henry David of Queens College and Nelson H. Cruikshank, director of Social Insurance Activities of the American Federation of Labor.

The workers' desire for protection in times of unemployment, sickness or old age will be weighed against the charges brought by those who, seeking to discredit welfare legislation, shout, "The workers will be giving up their freedom for security."

Propaganda to the effect that welfare legislation is "un-American" will be examined in the light of the U. S. Constitution's definition of the functions of government.

The panel discussion will be held in the ILGWU Stadium, 1114 Third Avenue, New York City. Since an overflow crowd is expected, members should obtain tickets in advance from the ILGWU Education Department. Admission is free.

## Fellowship Reunion

A reception which will feature entertainment and refreshments follows the panel. An arrangement of dances from the ILGWU Student Fellowship has plans well under way for the affair; however, tickets need to be secured in advance as many will attend. Tickets are 50 cents.

This is a good opportunity to renew old acquaintances and make new friends among members of other locals within the city.

## Ticket Sale Helps Body Making Fight On Discrimination

ILGWU members who wish to aid the New York State Committee on Discrimination in Housing may do so by purchasing special tickets which are good for admission to any of the Strand Theaters during the month of March. These admission tickets may be obtained for 50 cents from the ILGWU Educational Department or at local union offices.

Strand Theaters are located in Manhattan, Brooklyn, Queens and Westchester. Only a limited number of these tickets are available.

## KNOW YOUR CITY

Saturday Visits to Points of Interest

Feb. 18 at 2 P.M. Roosevelt Museum, 47 East 65th St. (between Madison and Park Aves.) Activities conducted in the historical home of Sara Delano Roosevelt will be explained by a member of the staff.

Feb. 23 at 11 A.M. (Please note the hour!) The Tomb, 135 White St. (Any subway to Canal St.) Visit one of the oldest prisons in New York.

## 31 FINISH COURSE REQUIRED OF ILG'S ELECTED OFFICERS

Thirty-one ILGWU members in New York City and vicinity have successfully completed the required course in the 1949-50 Officers Qualification Course:

Max Brasky, Murray Bender, Abe Freeman, Irving Krantz, Herman Mahan, Benjamin Rabinovich, Hyman Rubin (Local 190); Robert O. Stevenson (Local 20); Isidore Moss, Seymour Stock (Local 22); Ben Burwell, Arthur D. Scholten, Ed. Gustave Sperber, Joseph G. Reiberg (Local 25).

Also Carl Agnello, Ignazio Alfano, Michael Altroz, Joseph C. C. Sebastian, Francis Jack Perante, John Ferrante, Joseph Ferrara (Local 48); Leah Bernstein, Sylvia Friedman (Local 62); Nicholas Romano, Thomas Corvino (Local 89); Abraham Bruckstein, Morris Hertz, Abraham A. Scherer (Local 117); Edward Milano (Local 129); and Leo H. Bradford (Local 149).

## Snowsuit Pension Fund, Raises Won Over Last 3 Years

Local 106's entire administration, headed by Manager Martin L. Cohen, was re-elected by acclamation on Feb. 1, at the largest meeting in the local's nine-year history. The meeting, held at the Manhattan Center, was attended by more than 2,500.

Acknowledging this sweeping vote of confidence, Cohen declared that the members of Local 106 "can be sure that every officer will do his or her utmost to continue the local's fine record of achievement."

In a report covering the three years since Local 106's last elec-

## INTEREST MOUNTING IN CHICAGO LOCALS AS ELECTIONS NEAR

Election results announced from Chicago by Vice Pres. Morris Blais include the news that Local 18, Clerk and Treas. Presser, re-elected all of its officers by acclamation at a meeting attended by 90 percent of the membership. Those returned to office were Harry Messer, chairman; I. Miller, vice chairman; Joe Goldberg, recording secretary.

In Local 8, Clerk Oppen, on opposition candidates have been named, so a special meeting of the local has been called for Feb. 15 to act on the recommendation of the Election and Objection Committee that officers be elected by acclamation.

In Local 190, Dressmakers, three candidates were nominated for each office at a meeting on Feb. 9 so that a lively contest is anticipated.

The same kind of interest in the elections is being shown by members of Local 81, Cutlers, and Local 18, Cloth Finishers, as well as by members in other sections of the Midwest territory.

Cohen noted that its progress had been steady and gratifying. "Our membership has grown," he said, "our activities have improved." Among the gains listed for the period were two wage increases and the establishment of a retirement fund.

In chase as delegates to the ILGWU's forthcoming convention Manager Cohen, Dora Molinar, Madeline Seigel, George Karp, Nathan Starr, and Charles Sachs.

According to the "New York Times," the American Medical Assn. is getting ready to fight against any and all legislation in support of a National Health Insurance Plan. For this purpose it will seek to collect \$25 from each of its 145,000 members. In 1949 the AMA spent \$12,000 in organizing the campaign; \$1,948.64 on literature; and \$20,132 on operational expenses (whatever that may mean). The AMA reports that in states that more than 50,000,000 pieces of printed matter were distributed to "educate" the public to spread the "truth" before the "bar of public opinion."

Those who oppose the AMA's policy by issuing many statements, physicians maintain that the "ill effects" caused and distributed by the AMA contains not the truth but much falsehood and misinformation about the entire question at issue. As a matter of fact, it is because of this distortion of the truth that many by and by professional people have joined the forces that favor National Health Insurance.

Those who ally themselves have a job to do in this area. It will take more than just wishful thinking to counter the "educational" campaign of the AMA.

For example, very few people remember that in 1923 the AMA opposed any health insurance plan and referred to them as socialism and communism. Now, however, it is in favor of such plans.

I have just received a British publication called "Mass Observation." It is published by an organization of the same name which is comparable to our Gallup Poll. Some time ago "Mass Observation" sent out investigators to find out how many people in the community do on Sundays—how many just sit, how many go to church, etc.

This "Mass Observation" sent out its investigators (all of them from the middle class, so it says) to find out how people really think of their National Health Service. Do they like it? Do they want it continued? Has it helped them?

Allowing for the kind of opposition which comes from people who are in the U.S. would designate as "chronic" workers, who are never satisfied with anything unless it is of their own design, the majority of the replies are favorably disposed toward the Health Service Plan. Here are a few typical replies:

"I called in to the doctor to my baby on the day of the inception of the new service. I did not know what I expected, but I did feel much better. My baby's behavior behaved precisely as he always has." Bank clerk, aged 28.

"Very fine, but it's a lot of money to pay out every week. I suppose we can't complain. We've had quite a lot of sickness in the house since it started and I suppose we would have had a few pounds if it wasn't for the Health Service." Wife of engineer, aged 30.

"... benefited me materially, because for many years we suffered terrible privation through having to pay doctor's and chemist's bills. At last we had to sell house and most of home. Also, I didn't have lost my baby. I had to go out to work to earn the fees as well as nurse a sick husband." Housewife.

## PLANNING FOR PARENTHOOD

Special Film and Lecture by

Dr. Abraham Stone

Natural and marriage

counselor, staff member

Union Health Center

THURSDAY, FEB. 16, 8 P.M.

Studio A

1718 Broadway, N. Y. C.

## 1950 Spring Educational Program

New York Locals—ILGWU Educational Dept.

(Your Union Card Admits You Free)

LOCAL	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
22	Art Social Dancing Modern Society	Folk Dancing Central Events Public Speaking	Art Human Behavior	Spanish Dancing Glee Club	English Slimstick
23	English			English	
23	English				
43	English				
62	Dramatics		Dancing Handicrafts Dancing	English	English
91	New Members	Art Dance English	Government	English	Dancing
96		English	Song & Dance English	Art	
105	English				
Harlem	Public Speaking Extempore		Music Appreciation	Lecture Social Dancing	English Dramatics
ILGWU 1114 3rd Ave		Oym & Pool		Education Center Oym & Pool	
ILGWU Textile St. John					

ILG Index Terms  
on Friday at  
8th Regiment Armory  
Sixth Ave. & 14th St.

For further information  
contact your local  
Education Dept.

ILG Saturday Visits  
to Points of  
Interest  
Saturday at 2 P.M.

## ISIDORE NAGLER • Manager

The nomination meeting on Feb. 27 should be attended by every cutter who has the welfare of his local union at heart. It will do two important things: first, nominate officers for the ensuing term; second, deal with matters relating to the conduct of the election.

The selection of capable people to manage the affairs of the union is a matter that vitally affects the well-being of the organization. Membership should scrutinize the character and the past records of candidates asking: Do they measure up to the requirements of the task they must perform? Do they have experience in dealing with union and industrial problems as

well as they are fit to serve the members when difficulties arise? These are pertinent questions. But this is not all.

One should also inquire closely into the background and associations of candidates. Are they loyal, first, and above all, to the union, or is their allegiance to an outside group? Yes, their ideological associations are important for it is no secret that Communists seek, above all else, to gain a foothold in trade unions. Experience has taught trade unionists to beware of those whose political technique is not to present differences fairly but to spread misinformation and suspicion in order to undermine confidence and morale. And, if economic conditions should happen to be unfavorable at a particular time, they will, of course, exploit the situation to the utmost, as if it were in the power of the local union to regulate production of coats or

**LOCAL 16  
SPECIAL MEETING  
FOR NOMINATIONS**  
and action on executive board recommendations pertaining to the coming election.

**Monday,  
Feb. 27, 1950  
Eight After Work  
MANHATTAN  
CENTER  
361 St. & 8th Ave.**

drawn or the quantity of work during a season.

At the coming nomination meeting the executive board will recommend procedure for facilitating and carrying out a fair and orderly election in the best traditions of Local 16.

Union citizenship implies not only the receipt of benefits, such as sick wages, a short work-week, vacation and health and retirement benefits, but also the right to democratic treatment, etc. It also implies responsibility to participate in union affairs, particularly the nomination and election of officers.

Let us make the coming nomination meeting of Local 16 not merely a gathering to accomplish its stated purpose, but a great demonstration to reaffirm our loyalty to our organization and to the principles and ideals of the trade union movement.

## CLOAK OUT-OF- TOWN

George Rubin • Manager

### Local Elections Progress

In accordance with the ILOUW Convention Call, all Cloak Out-Of-Town locals are now engaged in elections to choose their delegates to the triennial convention which will open the end of May in Atlantic City, N. J. Because of the special significance of this convention as a celebration of the ILOUW's 50th anniversary, spirited contests are going on throughout the department's territory for the honor of representing the locals.

The locals are also electing new officers and executive board members for the ensuing three-year term, together with delegates to the Joint Council. It is expected that all will be completed within the next few weeks.

### March of Dimes

The March of Dimes campaign in the Cloak Out-Of-Town branch is beginning to pick up speed as

industrial activity hits its full stride. The drive was delayed by the lullness of the current season, but the size of the workers' donations indicate that the collection will be substantial.

Upon completion of the campaign, the results will be published for each local.

It is hardly necessary to urge upon all members the importance of the March of Dimes this year. The infantile paralysis epidemic last summer affected all communities and its effect is still vivid in the minds of all. The great emergency efforts of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis produced a deficit which must be made up now. The Cloak Out-Of-Town Department has always ranked among the important supporters of this cause. It is hoped that the response of the members will assure the same result this year.

### Bridgeport Graduates

Credentialed executive members of the Union Counseling Course in Local 141, Bridgeport, Conn., last week attracted wide attention. The Sunday "Herald" of that city published a four-column picture of the group receiving their ILOUW diplomas. The paper also ran a long story showing the nature of the course and describing it as "the first tangible step to bring organized labor and the Bridgeport community closer."

### ATTENTION, DRESS CUTTERS

Registration for retirement in the New York Dress Industry is now in progress.

Members who are eligible and wish to obtain this benefit should apply to the office of the retirement Fund, 218-21 West 46th Street, New York City, Room 218 between 9 A.M. and 5 P.M.

## Administrations Win Broad Victories

Sweeping victories for the administration slates, in the elections held early this month in Locals 117, 23, and 48, dealt a fatal blow to the frantic efforts of Communist-inspired opposition groups to panic the membership into voting against their leaders. In a record turn-out at the polls, the fake "rank and file" groups were completely snowed under, failing to elect a single candidate. In the face of furious and well-financed campaigns of the Communist cliques, which hurled misrepresentation and distortion, the administrations calmly stressed their ample records of achievement. The vote of confidence given the incumbents encouraged them to proceed along the constructive lines which have brought so many gains during past years.

### Kaplan Slate In; Answers Charges By Giving Facts

(Continued from Page 2)

The union officer, for the facts and figures were made available. Thousands of sick members had collected over a half million dollars in benefits from the Joint Board Health Fund between 1947 and 1949 as well as \$170,413 from the local sick benefit fund.

Some 514 operators had drawn pension from the Retirement Fund. Vacation checks for the three years amounted to \$1,717,046. Aid for labor, humanitarian and philanthropic causes at home and overseas was generous. The local had participated in every progressive movement and had given every encouragement to the Liberal Party fight against reactionaries.

The large vote in itself was a refutation of the Kremlin slogan. They had counted on shock in the shops to keep many members at home and thus increase the significance of their vote percentage vote. Instead there was a mass outpouring at the polls which even brought out many workers who, although ill, were determined to cast their ballots for the administration.

### THOUSANDS TURN OUT TO RE-ELECT REISS! FORCES BY 8-1 VOTE

Sickmakers flocked to the polls to re-elect the administration candidates supporting Manager Louis Reiss. The Communist-sponsored "rank and file" group was reduced to a remnant, as the returns showed it had lost half the strength polled three years ago. The 23 local, with 700 members, and his Progressive Group received an average vote of 8 to 1.

Over 4,000 votes were cast, some 1,000 more than in the last election. Reiss received 3,461 votes and other candidates on the administration slate obtained from 3,389 to 2,468 votes. The "rank and file" received from 418 to 238 votes.

In the last elections the administration had received between 2,313 and 2,508 votes, and the "rank and file" between 785 and 790 votes. Thus in the face of an increase in total votes cast, opposition votes fell from the 22 per cent of three years ago to 11 per cent in the present polls.

The opposition's unscrupulous use of every deception to bamboozle the membership backfired in the final stages of the campaign. Two executive candidates of the "rank and file" repudiated the slate, revealing that the Communists had taken advantage of the situation.

An election-day incident revealed, even more dramatically, the manipulation of the "rank and file" by outside Communist strategists, who were imported to line the block leading to Christ Church where the balloting took place, believed at the workers to vote for the opposition

### Italian Cloaks Retain Molisani By 5-1 Margin

Vice Pres. Edward Molisani was re-elected manager of the Italian Cloakmakers Union by a vote of almost 5 to 1, carrying the entire administration slate into office with him, at elections held Feb. 2. The vote was 1,786 for the incumbent to 1,676 for his Communist-supported opposition candidate, out of a total vote of 34,602.

The administration gave the self-labeled "rank and file" every privilege, even granting them job status to which they were not entitled because of an incomplete slate. Its only recompense was to be subjected to every imaginable abuse and half-truth thrown by the desperate Communist followers.

The industrial climate seemed to favor the opposition. The slow season and growing unemployment had created a good deal of dissatisfaction, particularly among the younger members who were used to the wartime continuity of work. However, the good sense of the Italian cloakmakers easily comprehended that the administration could not be held responsible for an industrial situation common to all the needle trades. Their votes for the leadership of a go-ahead signal for the future.

Reiss approached one of them to inquire as to his membership status and was greeted with effusive remarks.

The union leader thereupon halted two peering police officers who were met with a threatening gesture by the stranger. Despite his resistance, a search was made which disclosed

## N. Y. CLOAKMAKERS

CLOAK JOINT BOARD

### Ballot Boxes Bulged



Group of Italian cloakmakers, part of the 10,000 who turned out for last week's balloting, line up to vote for Local 48 officers and convention delegates. The administration headed by Vice Pres. Edward Molisani was returned by 5 to 1 margin. (See story.)

### Overlap Dept. Says Dues Make Up Half Of Total Collections

Initiation fees and dues totaling \$770 constituted more than half of the sum collected by the Overlapping Department of the Cloak Joint Board, for the last six months of 1949, according to Manager Charles Ormsky.

An additional \$6,131 came in as follows: \$2,667 from retirement fund delinquencies, \$1,667 from health and vacation fund delinquencies, \$2,196 for failure to pay Recovery Board labels, \$200 as delinquent damage from a firm.

### Pressers' Union Thrats Party Hailed as Big Success

The Pressers' Union thrats party on Feb. 11 at the Second Avenue Theater was a huge success. The specially priced tickets for the Molly Picon show, "Belle Is a Lady," were immediately snapped up by the membership. The event was one of the numerous activities conducted by the educational department of Local 35.

### CLOAK ELECTIONS

Local 9—Feb. 15 — Manhattan Center, N. Y. C.  
1292 Pitkin Ave., Brooklyn  
Local 44—Feb. 23—Cloak Joint Board—9th floor.  
Local 23—Mar. —Hotel Diplomat.  
It Is Your Duty to Vote!

**FIGHT POLIO!**  
Join March of Dimes!

### Russian-Polish Branch Nominates on Feb. 17

The Russian-Polish Branch of the Cloak Joint Board will hold its nomination meeting Feb. 17 at 6:30 P.M. at Narda House, 315 E. 19th St., New York City. The election is scheduled for Mar. 9 from 11 A.M. to 7:30 P.M. at Christ Church, 344 West 86th St.

# JUSTICE

INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION

## World Outlook Widens

The session of the American Federation of Labor's Executive Council which just closed in Miami, Fla., could best be epitomized as a "world solidarity" meeting. Never within memory has an AFL Executive Council session discussed and taken a stand on so many momentous matters affecting international labor as did this one, and with such painstaking thoroughness.

There is, of course, the over-all explanation for this contained in the old Latin proverb: "Times change, and we change with them." Our America has changed, its isolationism has slowly, painfully drifted out the window, and with it have gone a great many of the ancient national clichés and superstitions.

To the everlasting credit of our labor movement—and this applies today alike to the AFL, CIO and to the majority of the independent unions—it has moved incomparably faster along the path of international cooperation than any of the other major sectors in the general American community. While many of those who like to style themselves "liberals" still flounder in wishful thinking and escapist areas of a jerry-built "isolationism," the organized labor movement appears fully capable of recognizing harsh realities when faced with them. American labor today knows it is in a finish fight with the Red totalitarians, a fight in which no quarter is asked or given. It knows also that its defense—the building up of "areas of strength" everywhere in world labor—is as effective as any weapon of direct combat, and it is bending all efforts in that direction.

A few items of the agenda of the Miami meeting and the decisions adopted by the Executive Council are worth recapitulating:

It gave full backing to the new International Confederation of Free Trade Unions formed in London last December. It was unquestionably the AFL's principled spurning of the Moscow-ruled "World Federation of Trade Unions" which finally moved the British Trade Union Congress and the American CIO to re-examine their position with regard to the WFTU and to withdraw from it, forming subsequently the ICFTU together with the AFL.

It called upon the U. S. Government to "adhere firmly to non-recognition" of Franco Spain, declaring that if we recognize the dictatorship of Franco we might as well, by the same logic, extend recognition to the Communist oligarchs who have captured China with the aid of imperialist Russia and are making a Soviet satellite out of it.

It urged the United States Senate to ratify the United Nations convention outlawing genocide—mass killing of national, racial and religious groups.

It urged aid to help India overcome its immediate food difficulties, develop public education and improve public health.

Out of this session has also come a strong hope that the International Association of Machinists with its 600,000 members, who stepped out of the AFL some five years ago owing to jurisdictional clashes with the Brotherhood of Carpenters, will soon reaffiliate with the AFL. It is considered probable that this dispute will soon be ironed out for, as President Hayes of the Machinists had put it, "We are AFL-minded people."

On the domestic labor horizon, also, signs of an early possible rapprochement of the AFL with the CIO are re-appearing, signs of a somewhat more concrete nature than those which came up in former years. The council, it is reported, has authorized its top officers to approach the CIO and to explore the possibility of labor unity.

The teamwork with the CIO at the London international labor confab last December and the resolute move by the CIO to rid itself of Communist and Pro-Communist officials and of the unions they dominate, obviously has made a deep impression on AFL leadership. However, there are still some tough obstacles, practical as well as psychological, that would have to be overcome before organic merger between the AFL and the CIO is made acceptable—and palatable—to both sides.

## "Hard Coal"



## "Vote for—"



## Pins & Needles

M. D. Danish

A BRIGHT piece of news has come from Rome reporting the virtual merger of the free Socialist Labor Federation with the Catholic Free Confederation of unions.

It's been a long and tortuous way coming, this unification of the anti-Communist labor movement in Italy. Together, both free labor bodies will have close to 2 million members as against the 5 to 6 million in the General Confederation which is controlled by the Communists. But until two years ago, it was to remember, the Communist-ruled federation was the only one in the labor field.

We should like to think that this merger, regarded as nearly impossible of achievement only a few months ago, is the first indirect, or direct, fruit of the emergency last November of the imposing 43-nation International Confederation of Free Trade Unions. At any rate, it is good tidings for all who have the interest of free labor at heart.

SHARP criticism by the AFL's Executive Council of the State Department's current plans to move toward full diplomatic recognition of Franco Spain, it is to be hoped, will slow up the Falangist lobby which in the past half-dozen months has so brazenly been pushing the "Little Despot's" cause in Washington and in the United Nations.

The Executive Council's statement is keen, piercing and inanswerable. It literally demolishes every pretense to logic in Secretary Acheson's proposal of a change in the present non-recognition policy. Recognition of Franco Spain, the Executive Council declares, would "pave the way for extensive financial aid to a despicable despotism now in the throes of a crisis which, if not alleviated by outside aid, can lead only to its doom." By granting Franco recognition we would tend to remove all moral and economic pressure on his regime to get off the backs of the oppressed Spanish people.

WHEN the House of Commons was officially dissolved on February 3, Labor held a majority of 175 seats over the Tory and National-Liberal combination. What will its majority be after Feb. 23-election day?

The pollsters are as busy in Britain as our own samplers of public opinion, so-called, had been on the eve of the Truman-Dewey contest in 1948. Except that having learned a good bit from our experience, when all paid and unpaid pre-

dictors fell flat on their faces, the British mind-testers are a lot more cautious. Top Labor Party man, it is reported, say privately that they would be unhappy with any majority under 100. Out of 400 British newspaper men polled by the Tory London "Evening Standard," 76 per cent said a Labor victory is in the offing. We've had a hunch the Tories are only campaigning for a heavily reduced Labor majority. . . . Well, it won't be long now.

THE tough, specific and forthright language which American High Commissioner McCloy used in his Stuttgart address last week upon his return from Washington was meant both as a deserved rebuke and a timely warning.

Commissioner McCloy pulled no punches as he told the assembled Germans, both top-shelf and low-draw, that the Americans did not come to Germany to "feed, clothe and shoe them." Our main goal, he told them, was to place up Nazism by its roots and to eradicate German youth along democratic lines of thought and action.

That McCloy and his superiors in Washington are in dead earnest now about this, need not be doubted. How deep this warning will cut into the German mind, is doubtful. One thing seems certain: sweet talk and soft policies do not work out too well in Germany, West or East. And the best time for chopping down the resurging Nazi monster is before it's raised its head too high. . . .

THE Republicans are trying pathetically to move into the control tower in Washington without realizing that there is really no vacancy. A few days ago, several hundreds of them got together, made a terrible din and came up with a slogan on which they plan, or hope, to ride into power.

The GOP slogan is "Liberty Against Socialism"—"liberty" of the Right-Breaker Joe Martin-Leo Allen amalgam, and "socialism" in the image of a distorted Falder sprayed with a dash of "welfare state" to make him even less palatable. At some point in the turbulent debate "free enterprise," top GOP merchandise only a short while ago, got lost or was deliberately misplaced. Can it be that the GOPers who keep moaning constantly that Truman has no firm foreign policy, have nothing less regrettably than such a "domestic policy" to offer to the voters?